

#72171



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

RAVI K. KAVURI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2171

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No.: 10/033,503

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: VIRTUAL VOLUME MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

Attorney Docket No.: 2001-028-NSC (STK 01028 PUS)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and/or SB08B are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner.

While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the reference(s) are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage pre-paid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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Jeffrey M. Szuma
Name of Person Signing


Signature

The references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08B include a Notice pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 282 regarding U.S. Patent No. 4,467,421 and U.S. Reissue Patent No. 36,989 and also include Protest filings regarding the U.S. Reissue Patent No. 36,989. The Protest filings include an IDS Accompanying Protest of Reissue Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.291 ("Protest IDS") and a Protest of Reissue Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.291 with exhibits. The Notice and the Protest IDS include a list of references. All of the references listed in the Protest IDS are included in the Notice.

The references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB08B also include a Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law dated March 18, 2003 regarding the U.S. Reissue Patent No. 36,989 ("Sutmyn Storage Corporation, et al. v. Storage Technology Corporation and Storage Technology Corporation v. Sutmyn Storage Distribution Co., C97-20105 RMW, C97 20629 RMW, Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law, dated March 18, 2003").

The attached Forms PTO/SB08A and PTO/SB08B list all of the foreign patent references and the non-patent references listed in the Notice and the Protest IDS of which the Applicants have been able to locate copies. The attached Form PTO/SB08A also lists foreign patent references which have been discovered during the search for the references listed in the Notice and the Protest IDS. As such, the attached Forms PTO/SB08A and PTO/SB08B do not contain all of the foreign patent references and non-patent references listed in the Notice and the Protest IDS. The Applicants have filed this IDS in order to at least cite the listed foreign patent references and non-patent references of which copies are currently available to the Applicants.

The Applicants are also electronically filing another IDS in order to cite all of the U.S. patent references listed in the Notice and the Protest IDS. The Applicants are submitting these U.S. patent references electronically in order to reduce the burden associated with mailing a relatively large number of U.S. patent references.

Consideration and entry into the record of these references is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RAVI K. KAVURI et al.

By: Jeffrey M. Szuma
Jeffrey M. Szuma
Reg. No. 35,700
Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date: April 15, 2004

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351